



PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 46970-5104

21659

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Alexandria, VA 22314

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a Final Action, a Notice of Allowance, or another action that closes prosecution in the above-referenced application. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a fee of \$180.00, as specified by § 1.17(p).

A Japanese Office Action dated January 19, 2007 that issued in a corresponding Japanese patent application and having documents cited therein is attached for the Examiner's consideration. The cited documents are listed on the attached PTO Form 1449.

The relevance of the attached foreign language documents can be understood from their attached English-language abstracts, and from the citation of these documents in the attached Japanese Office Action dated January 19, 2007. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this Application, including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required and including any required extension of time fees, *or* credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 2, 2007

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